Washington, DC—Today, Congressman Olver released the following statement on to commemorate the 10th anniversary of September 11th and remember residents and former residents of the First District of Massachusetts who lost their lives that day:

"On September 11, 2001, our country was brutally attacked by terrorists intent on crippling us. Instead of allowing the horror of these events to overtake us, we have banded together – and become a stronger country for it.

We have strengthened our ports and our borders, and improved communication between local, state, and federal law enforcement. We have also made strides in our intelligence-gathering and foiled Al Qaeda in its plots to attack us once again.

It is in the face of these threats that we truly see the best come out in the American people. We honor the memory of those lost on 9/11 by demonstrating that freedom and tolerance are more powerful than fanaticism and indiscriminate violence.

Today, millions of Americans are honoring the friends and family we have lost. From memorial services in cities across the country, to collecting food for the hungry and repairing homes that were damaged by the recent storms. We come together with a common purpose.

This is a time for reflection and remembrance, and to let that reflection strengthen our resolve. That we will work together to strengthen and protect our nation – and that we will never forget."

The following people with ties to the First District lost their lives in the attacks on September 11, 2001:

Tara Kathleen Shea Creamer, Westfield

Brian Joseph Murphy, Westfield
Daniel Patrick Trant, Westfield
Mikael Carstanjen, <i>Turner Falls</i>
Lindsay S. Morehouse, Williamstown
* Please contact Elizabeth Murphy (elizabeth.murphy@mail.house.gov) if your loved one from the First District is not listed here and you would like their named added.